

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CHARLESTON DIVISION

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United States of America, <i>et al.</i> ,)	Civil Action No. 9:14-cv-00230-RMG
)	(Consolidated with 9:11-cv-1593-RMG and
Plaintiffs,)	9:15-cv-2458-RMG)
)	
<i>ex rel.</i> Scarlett Lutz, <i>et al.</i> ,)	
)	
Plaintiffs-Relators,)	ORDER and OPINION
)	
v.)	
)	
Berkeley Heartlab, Inc., <i>et al.</i> ,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

This matter is before the Court on a Motion to Reconsider (Dkt. No. 558) filed by BlueWave Healthcare Consultants, Inc., Floyd Calhoun Dent, III, and Robert Bradford Johnson (collectively, "the BlueWave Defendants"), asking this Court to reconsider its Order (Dkt. No. 550) excluding the proffered expert testimony of Jennifer Bolen. The Government has filed a response in opposition. (Dkt. No. 559.) For the reasons set forth below, the BlueWave Defendants' Motion to Reconsider (Dkt. No. 558) is denied.

I. Background

On July 24, 2017, this Court issued an order excluding the proffered testimony of Jennifer Bolen because she relied on a charge-based methodology to support her opinion that the Processing and Handling fees paid by the laboratories were commercially reasonable. (Dkt. No. 550.) The Court explained in detail the reasons why a charge-based methodology is not a reliable methodology for determining the commercial reasonableness of physician services. (*Id.* at 4-5.) The Court also determined that the portions of Bolen's opinions that did not rely on a charge-based analysis were inadmissible because they were not based on sufficient facts or data and,

with regard to the clinical utility of the Cardiovascular/Metabolic Test Profile, she was not qualified to offer her opinion. (*Id.* at 5-7.)

II. Legal Standard

In the Fourth Circuit, motions to reconsider are granted under a narrow set of circumstances: “(1) to accommodate an intervening change in controlling law; (2) to account for new evidence not available at trial; or (3) to correct a clear error of law or prevent manifest injustice.” *Hill v. Braxton*, 277 F.3d 701, 708 (4th Cir. 2002).

III. Discussion

In their Motion to Reconsider (Dkt. No. 558), the BlueWave Defendants reargue the merit of a charge-based methodology. They argue at length that charges are at least relevant to the value of physician services, but they ignore the Court’s actual ruling that a methodology used to determine the commercial reasonableness of physician services based almost exclusively on charges is unreliable and would be misleading to a jury.

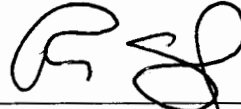
The Motion to Reconsider does not point to any intervening change in the law, new evidence, or clear error of law in this Court’s order. Instead, it reargues issues that the parties previously briefed and that this Court has already considered. A motion to reconsider is not the proper vehicle to notify that Court that the BlueWave Defendants disagree with the Court’s previous order.

IV. Conclusion

For the reasons set forth above and in this Court’s previous order (Dkt. No. 550), the BlueWave Defendants’ Motion to Reconsider (Dkt. No. 558) is denied.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

August 9, 2017
Charleston, South Carolina



Richard Mark Gergel
United States District Court Judge